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Attorney Docket No: VECT-p02-003
(formerly VOV-003.02)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Peter D. Harney)

Serial No.: 09/220,398)

Group Art Unit: 1655

Filed: December, 24 1998)

Examiner: Jezia Riley

For: *Methods and Kits for Preparing
Multicomponent Nucleic Acid Constructs*)

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9/26/01

Sep 20, 2001

By:

Matthew Vincent

RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 20, 2001, Applicant submits the following comments amendments in this request for reconsideration.

In the Claims

Please amend claim 1, 4, 11, 31 and 39-42 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method of linking nucleic acid components in a predetermined order to produce a nucleic acid multicomponent construct, comprising:

(a) providing at least two nucleic acid components, each comprising at least one genetic element providing a functionality and at least one single stranded 5' or 3' terminal sequence, the terminal sequence having sufficient complementarity to either a terminal sequence in [a separate]

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